Rajya Sabha on the 14th August, 1985 and state what is the approximate saving in operation cost of road vehicles which can be effected as compared to the cost *ot* improvement of road surfaces and geometries?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL): According to a rough assessment made by the Advisory Board on Energy, about Rs. 500 crores per annum can be saved in fuel consumed by road vehicles by investing Rs. 5300 crores on improvement of roads including National Highways. Other savings in vehicle operating cost amount to Rs. 1500 crores per annum.

कोटा-चित्तौड़गढ़ -नीमच बड़ी लाइन

3068. **श्री प्यारेलाल खंडेलवाल** : क्या **परिवहन** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कोटा-चित्तौड़गढ़-नीमच बड़ी रेलवे लाइन के निर्माण कार्य में क्या प्रगति हुई है;

(ख) क्या कोटा-चित्तौड़गढ़ -नीमच रेलवे लाइन पर नीमच में एक नया रेलवे स्टेशन बनाये जाने का कोई प्रस्ताव है, यदि हां, तो क्या इस स्टेशन के निर्माण के लिए कोई स्थान चुन लिया गया है ; और

(ग) क्या नीमच में नये रेलवे स्टेशन के निर्माण के लिए जमीन का अधिग्रहण कर लिया गया है ?

रेल विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री माधव राव सिन्धिया) : (क) कोटा-चित्तौड़गढ़ -नीमच परियोजना के गुर्ला-चित्तौड़गढ़ खंड पर निर्माण कार्य प्रगति पर हैं । अक्तूबर, 1985 तक प्रगति लगभग 16 प्रतिशत है ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता है ।

Increasing Axle Load on Roads

3069. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN;
DR. RUDRA PRATAP SINGH;

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware that much heavier axle loads are coming on our roads than what they are designed to withstand;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard; and

(c) whether Government propose to persuade the transport industry to go in for multi-axled vehicles to reduce the load on each axle?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL); (a) and (b) In order that the total weight of the vehicle moving on the road is within the safe limits with reference to the capacity of the road system, maximum safe axle weights have been specified in relation to the transport vehicles, further stipulating that the maximum safe laden weight shall not be more tha$_n$ the sum total of all the maximum safe axle weights put together. The State Governments have been advised that the State Transport Authorities, at the time of registration of the vehicle, should fix weights accordingly.

(c) The use of multiaxle vehicles is being encouraged owing to their capability to carry higher payload with less pressure on road surface due to spread of load pressure.

National Games, 1985

3070. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what wa$_s$ the total expenditure incurred to conduct the National Games, 1985; and

(b) what are the reasons for the poor public response?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE; DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH, AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND: WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) According to information received from the Indian Olympic Association, who organised the National Games- the expenditure incurred by them on the Games is not available as the concerned accounts are yet to be fully compiled.

(b) The Indian Olympic Association have stated that the public response to the National Games cannot be termed poor.

Misstatement regarding promotion of Urdu

3071. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA; Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Director Bureau for Promotion of Urdu recently appeared on the Delhi Doordarshan made several misstatements with regard to the promotion of Urdu at Government level; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) It is true that the Director along with a few officers of the Bureau for Promotion of Urdu appeared in the Bazam programme telecast by the Doordarshan on September 27, 1985. In this programme the discussion centered round the activities undertaken by the Bureau for Promotion of Urdu for the development and promotion of Urdu.

The honourable Member of Parliament has not indicated in specific terms the mis-statement alleged to have been made by Director, Bureau for Promotion of Urdu. In view of this, it is not possible to indicate the details oi the mis-statements made.

Smuggling of coal to Pakistan

3072. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA; Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the Bombay Weekly 'BLITZ' of 7th December, 1985 under the caption "coal booked for Punjab to Pakistan";

(b) if so, what are facts of the case and the *modus operandi* for smuggling into Pakistan the coal booked for forward areas of Punjab and Gujarat from the mines of the Western Coalfields Limited;

(c) what is the action taken against the delinquent officials involved, in the irregular transportation of coal; and

(d) what are the preventive measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (.a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The information is being collected and wiH be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Preservation of Ruins of Lothal

3073. SHRI KALPNATH RAI; Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state what steps are being taken to preserve and protect the recently excavated ruins of Lothal, an Indus valley civilization city near Ahmedabad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE *IN* THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI); The following steps havte been taken to preserve the excavated ruins at Lothal;

(a) Annual maintenance and upkeep;